

impose tolls and to levy rates, and to borrow money upon the credit of the said market place, tolls and rates, and for other purposes.

And whereas in pursuance of the powers contained in the said Act of 1825 a market place and other buildings were duly erected, and market tolls were imposed and monies were borrowed for the purpose of defraying the cost of the said market place and other buildings.

And whereas under and by virtue of "The Stourbridge Improvement Act, 1866" (hereinafter called the said Act of 1866) the said Act of 1825 was repealed to the extent and with the exceptions specified in the said Act of 1866, and the said Commissioners were reconstituted and incorporated under the name of the Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners, and provision was made for the adoption of the said Act of 1866 by any one of the townships of Lye, Amblecote and Wollaston, and for the extension of the limits of that Act so as to comprise the respective township adopting the same, but in case of such adoption as aforesaid it was provided that no part of the debt of the existing Commissioners appointed by the said Act of 1825 or of the interest thereon should be charged upon or paid out of the improvement rate to be from time to time levied in respect of rateable property in any township so adopting the said Act of 1866 as aforesaid.

And whereas under and by virtue of "The Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners Act, 1891" (hereinafter called the said Act of 1891) the said Act of 1866 was repealed to the extent in the said Act of 1891 mentioned (including in such repeal the provision as to payment of the debt of the existing Commissioners hereinbefore referred to), and it was provided, *inter alia*, that, notwithstanding anything in the said Act of 1866, that Act should not at any time after the passing of the said Act of 1891 be adopted by any of the townships empowered by the said Act of 1866 to adopt the same without the approval of the Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners, and that if at the time of the adoption of the said Act of 1866 by any township the debt incurred in respect of the building of the old Town Hall, Corn Exchange, and Market Hall should be outstanding, such debt should not be a charge upon any such township adopting the said Act or the rates or revenues thereof.

And whereas under and by virtue of the Local Government Act, 1894, as from the 22nd day of November, 1894, the Improvement Act District of Stourbridge became an urban district (hereinafter called "the District"), and the said Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners became the urban district council of Stourbridge (hereinafter called "the District Council").

And whereas none of the said townships of Lye, Amblecote and Wollaston has adopted the said Act of 1866.

And whereas by an Order of the County Council of Worcester, dated the 15th day of September, 1894, duly confirmed (with such modifications as are in the confirming Order mentioned) by the County of Worcester (Stourbridge) Confirmation Order, 1894, of the Local Government Board, dated the 19th day of November, 1894, it was ordered that on and after the appointed day, as defined by

section 84 of the Local Government Act, 1894, the township of Wollaston should be included in and form part of the district, and it was provided, *inter alia*, that the "old debt," as defined by section 4 of the said Act of 1891, and the outstanding balance of the amount borrowed for the payment of the costs of obtaining that Act, with all interest due or to become due thereon, should be paid exclusively out of rates to be levied for the discharge thereof exclusively within the area of the then existing parish of Stourbridge, and no part thereof should be paid out of rates to be levied in the said township of Wollaston.

And whereas by an Order of the County Council of Worcester, dated the 22nd day of October, 1894, duly confirmed (with such modifications as are in the confirming Order mentioned) by the County of Worcester (Stourbridge) Confirmation Order, 1895, of the Local Government Board, dated the 25th day of March, 1895, it was ordered that as, on and from the 1st day of April, 1895, the township of Upper Swinford should be included in and form part of the district, and it was provided, *inter alia*, that the old debt of £16,070, as defined by section 4 of the said Act of 1891 (being the debt incurred in respect of the building of the old Town Hall, Corn Exchange and Market Hall), and the debt of £1,764, the cost of obtaining the said Act of 1891 debts of the urban district, with all interest due or to become due thereon, should be paid exclusively out of rates to be levied for the discharge thereof exclusively within the area of the then existing urban district, and that no part thereof should be paid out of rates to be levied in the said township of Upper Swinford.

And whereas by the County of Worcester, Stourbridge Urban District Order, 1909, the number of members of the District Council to be elected for the district (which had been prescribed by the said Act of 1866 and varied by the said Act of 1891, and the said Orders of September and October, 1894) were reduced from 27 to 21.

And whereas by the Stourbridge Main Drainage Order, 1881, of the Local Government Board, duly confirmed by the Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (Brentford Union, &c.) Act, 1881, and amended by the Stourbridge Main Drainage Order, 1896, duly confirmed by the Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 8) Act, 1896, and a further Order of the Local Government Board, dated the 24th day of June, 1898, the district and the urban district of Amblecote were formed into a united district, called the Stourbridge Main Drainage District, governed by a Joint Board called the Stourbridge Main Drainage Board, and having a common fund to be contributed by the said districts in manner provided by section 283 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

And whereas by the Stourbridge and Halesowen Hospital (County of Worcester) Order, 1896, amended by the Stourbridge and Halesowen Hospital (County of Worcester) Order, 1897, the Lye and Wollescote urban district, the district and the Halesowen rural district were formed into a united hospital district for the provision, maintenance and management of an isolation hospital or hospitals under the Isolation Hospitals Act, 1893,